

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-5 (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 16, wherein the cover defines a recess, the quick-locking member including a locking portion engageable with the recess to lock the cover to the housing.

7. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 17, wherein the cover at least partially covers a portion of the circular saw blade above the shoe plate.

8. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 16, wherein the quick-locking member is a latch.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 16, wherein the housing defines a handle portion gripable by a user, the quick-locking member being connected to the housing near the handle portion.

11. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 16, further comprising a second locking assembly cooperating with the quick-locking member to selectively lock the cover to the housing.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Withdrawn) The saw of claim 12, wherein the cover includes a ledge engageable with the hook member.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A circular saw comprising:

a housing;

a motor at least partially positioned within the housing and operable to drive a circular saw blade;

a shoe plate connected to the housing and engageable with a surface of a workpiece to support the circular saw upon the workpiece, the circular saw blade being disposed both above and below the shoe plate;

a cover selectively connectable to the housing, the cover at least partially covering the circular saw blade when the cover is connected to the housing; and

a quick-locking member connected to one of the housing and the cover and engageable with the other of the housing and the cover to selectively lock the cover to the housing without the use of tools;

wherein the quick-locking member is connected to the housing and is engageable with the cover;

wherein the quick-locking member has a first position, in which the quick-locking member engages the cover to lock the cover to the housing, and a second position, in which the quick-locking member is disengaged from the cover and the cover is not locked to the housing;

wherein the quick-locking member is pivotable between the first position and the second position;

wherein the quick-locking member includes a first member connected to the housing, a second member connected to the first member and pivotable relative to the first member, and a third member connected to the second member and pivotable relative to the second member, the third member being engageable with the cover to selectively lock the cover to the housing; and

The circular saw of claim 15, wherein the third member is engageable by a user to move the third member into and out of engagement with the cover to lock and unlock, respectively, the cover from the housing.

17. (Currently Amended) A circular saw comprising:  
a housing;  
a motor at least partially positioned within the housing and operable to drive a  
circular saw blade;  
a shoe plate connected to the housing and engageable with a surface of a  
workpiece to support the circular saw upon the workpiece, the circular saw blade being disposed  
both above and below the shoe plate;  
a cover selectively connectable to the housing, the cover at least partially covering  
the circular saw blade when the cover is connected to the housing; and  
a quick-locking member connected to one of the housing and the cover and  
engageable with the other of the housing and the cover to selectively lock the cover to the  
housing without the use of tools;  
wherein the quick-locking member is connected to the housing and is engageable  
with the cover;  
wherein the quick-locking member has a first position, in which the quick-locking  
member engages the cover to lock the cover to the housing, and a second position, in which the  
quick-locking member is disengaged from the cover and the cover is not locked to the housing;  
wherein the quick-locking member is pivotable between the first position and the  
second position; and  
~~The circular saw of claim 4,~~ wherein the cover is a first cover, wherein the  
circular saw further comprises a second cover connected to the housing and disposed between  
the circular saw blade and the first cover when the first cover is connected to the housing, the  
second cover at least partially covering the circular saw blade when the first cover is both  
connected to and disconnected from the housing.

18. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 17, wherein the cover  
defines a receptacle therein operable to hold fragments of a work piece upon which the circular  
saw blade is performing work, fragments being moved into the receptacle by the circular saw  
blade as the circular saw blade rotates during operation.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 17, wherein the cover substantially covers the portion of the saw blade above the shoe plate.

Claims 21-45 (Cancelled)

46. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 16, further comprising a spring engageable with the quick-locking member to releasably retain the quick-locking member in the first position.

47. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 16, wherein the quick-locking member includes an over-center biasing latch.

48. (Currently Amended) The circular saw of ~~claim 4~~ claim 16, wherein the housing includes a hook member, the cover engaging the hook member at a first end of the cover and the quick-locking member engaging the cover at a second end of the cover to connect the cover to the housing.

49. (Previously Presented) The circular saw of claim 48, wherein the cover includes a pin engageable with the hook member.

50. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 54, wherein the quick-locking member is connected to the housing and is engageable with the cover.

51. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 54, wherein the cover defines a recess, the quick-locking member including a locking portion engageable with the recess to lock the cover to the housing.

52. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 55, wherein the cover at least partially covers an upper portion of the saw blade.

53. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 54, wherein the quick-locking member is a latch.

54. (Currently Amended) A saw comprising:  
a housing;  
a motor at least partially positioned within the housing and operable to drive a  
saw blade;  
a cover selectively connectable to the housing, the cover at least partially covering  
the saw blade when the cover is connected to the housing; and  
a quick-locking member connected to one of the housing and the cover and  
engageable with the other of the housing and the cover to selectively lock the cover to the  
housing without the use of tools, the quick-locking member being pivotable between a first  
position, in which the cover is locked to the housing, and a second position, in which the cover is  
not locked to the housing;

The saw of claim 44, wherein the housing defines a handle portion gripable by a user, the quick-locking member being connected to the housing near the handle portion.

55. (Currently Amended) A saw comprising:  
a housing;  
a motor at least partially positioned within the housing and operable to drive a  
saw blade;  
a cover selectively connectable to the housing, the cover at least partially covering  
the saw blade when the cover is connected to the housing;  
a quick-locking member connected to one of the housing and the cover and  
engageable with the other of the housing and the cover to selectively lock the cover to the  
housing without the use of tools, the quick-locking member being pivotable between a first  
position, in which the cover is locked to the housing, and a second position, in which the cover is  
not locked to the housing; and

The saw of claim 44, ~~further comprising~~ a second locking assembly cooperating with the quick-locking member to selectively lock the cover to the housing.

56. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 54, wherein the quick-locking member includes a first member connected to the housing, a second member connected to the first member and pivotable relative to the first member, and a third member connected to the second member and pivotable relative to the second member, the third member being engageable with the cover to selectively lock the cover to the housing.

57. (Previously Presented) The saw of claim 56, wherein the third member is engageable by a user to move the third member into and out of engagement with the cover to lock and unlock, respectively, the cover from the housing.

58. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 55, wherein the cover is a first cover, wherein the saw further comprises a second cover connected to the housing and disposed between the saw blade and the first cover when the first cover is connected to the housing, the second cover at least partially covering the saw blade when the first cover is both connected to and disconnected from the housing.

59. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 55, wherein the cover defines a receptacle therein operable to hold fragments of a work piece upon which the saw blade is performing work, fragments being moved into the receptacle by the saw blade as the saw blade rotates during operation.

60. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 54, wherein the saw is a circular saw.

61. (Currently Amended) The saw of ~~claim 44~~ claim 55, further comprising a shoe plate connected to the housing and engageable with a surface of a workpiece to support the saw upon the workpiece, the cover substantially covering the portion of the saw blade above the shoe plate.